Hartford Decr. 28th 1857

My Dear Sir

Your favor of the 26th has just reached me, requesting from me what I might recollect about Mr. Ichabod Robinson, the brother of my Grandmother. Mr. Robinson was a man above the ordinary size, Erect, & well proportioned - As I recollect him he was a venerable looking old gentleman. He had a strong mind, well furnished from the books within his reach, & notwithstanding his eccentricities, he commanded the respect of his cotemporaries —

He held but little intercourse with us boys, & to us he seemed severe, & his deportment towards us was tho't. quite commanding —

He had in the earlier part of his life kept a store of goods for sale, but at the time of which I speak, the shop was used as a reading room. I well remember him, seated in the south west corner of the room, (his window looking into the street) with his broad shoulders, & a head covered with hair as white & snow - I do not suppose he had a bad temper, but his deportment was such that the youngsters feared to incur his displeasure —

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Uncle Govr. Trumbull & my Father took the New York & Boston newspapers, & Uncle Robinson was very fond of reading them. I remember being frequently sent with the papers, immediately after their arrival, to Uncle Robinson, with a strict injunction not to open them— for it was well understood that unless the old gentleman could have the first reading, he would not look into them at all. After he had done with the papers, they were returned to us for family use.—

During the season for taking Shad from the Con. Riv. it was customary for the neighbors to purchase ~~that~~ & bring them home, not only for their own use but for the supply of others in the vicinity— Uncle Robinson had a strong dislike to Shad, & no person was permitted to bring one within his premises— If any one presumed to offer him a Shad— "be gone with "your stinking fish" was the invariable, & prompt reply—

During the revolutionary contest Uncle Robinson was a Whig—but when the constitution was framed, and the laws relating to voting were enacted, he objected to the oath which was required, & I have always understood that he declined the exercise of that privilege— saying "that if his patriotism was not a sufficient guaranty for "his fidelity, he would leave the voting to others"

I have made these few remarks about our ancestor, merely to let you into the private character which

which he bore in the vicinity. How far it will be neceſsary to give them publicity, I leave to your judgment. He was a very upright & worthy gentleman, but Quaker—

With great respect

Your Obd^{t}. Servant

Jn. Trumbull —

Proſsor Robinson
New York

Hon. Jas. Trumbull
Dec 28, '57
Ichabod Robinson

P13d